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TOR:251432Z MAY 76

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2977

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 7132

INFO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 9716

RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 8525

RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 1840

BT

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 128406

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLUS

SUBJECT: LOS:GROUP OF FIVE MEETING

1. AT RECENTLY COMPLETED LOS CONFERENCE SESSION IN NEW YORK, UK INVITED MEMBERS OF GROUP OF FIVE (US, UK, USSR, FRANCE, AND JAPAN) TO MEET IN LONDON IN JUNE. WE UNDERSTAND DATES TO BE JUNE 21-24.

2. AMEMBASSY LONDON IS REQUESTED TO INQUIRE ABOUT STATUS OF UK PLANNING FOR MEETING. YOU MAY INDICATE THAT JUNE 21-24 DATES ARE SATISFACTORY FOR US. WE ARE ASSUMING THESE ARE THE CORRECT DATES AND WE ARE NOW PROCEEDING TO ARRANGE, TENTATIVELY, OTHER MEETINGS AROUND THAT PERIOD INCLUDING POSSIBLE VISIT TO BONN FRIDAY, JUNE 25. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION REGARDING SPECIFIC SCHEDULES, AGENDA AND MATERIAL WHICH WE UNDERSTAND UK IS PREPARING FOR MEETING- IN GENERAL, WE WOULD LIKE TO REVIEW ALL 4 PARTS OF THE SNT THOROUGHLY, AND ALSO DISCUSS INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE NEXT SESSION. PLEASE INFORM LOGAN OR GUINNESS IN CONFIDENCE THAT US IS NOT RPT NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE ON DEEP SEABED QUOTA ISSUE, AND WOULD HOPE MEETINGS COULD BE SO HANDLED AS TO MINIMIZE EFFECT ON GROUP COOPERATION GENERALLY. FYI. CONTINUAL ATTACKS ON US FIGURES RE DEEP SEABED MINING BY ALAN ARCHER, HOWEVER SINCERE, WILL MERELY SERVE TO INCREASE FRENCH AND SOVIET INSISTENCE ON AN QUOTE ANTI-DOMINANT END QUOTE CLAUSE. IN ADDITION, WE DO NOT RPT NOT WISH TO BE ISOLATED BY HEAVY BRITISH PRESSURE FOR A COMPROMISE, SINCE SOVIETS QUOTE IN PRINCIPLE END QUOTE SAY THEY ARE WILLING TO EXPLORE ANY COMPROMISE IN ORDER TO GET US INTO THE EXERCISE. END FYI

3. EXISTENCE OF GROUP OF FIVE IS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN AND

Chrono

~~SECRET~~

May 1976

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WE WOULD WISH TO AVOID ANY PRESS COMMENT OR SPECULATION ABOUT THIS MEETING. IF FACT MEETING IS BEING HELD SHOULD BECOME KNOWN, WE WOULD SIMPLY ACKNOWLEDGE IN RESPONDING TO PRESS INQUIRIES THAT WE ARE HAVING NORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON LOS MATTERS, LEAVING IT TO BRITISH TO DEAL WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTICIPANTS.

4. WE HOPE TO USE LONDON MEETING TO ARRANGE SEVERAL BILATERAL TALKS. PLEASE INFORM UK THAT AMBASSADOR LEARSON WOULD LIKE TO INVITE AMBASSADOR DONALD LOGAN AND MR. J. R. S. GUINNESS TO DINNER ON THE EVENING OF SUNDAY, JUNE 20, IF THAT IS CONVENIENT.

IF INVITATION ACCEPTED, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS AT APPROPRIATE PLACE AT TIME CONVENIENT TO UK GUESTS.

5. WE MAY WISH TO ARRANGE FOR ADDITIONAL BILATERAL LUNCHES OR DINNERS BUT TIMING WILL DEPEND ON UK SCHEDULE OF LUNCHES OR RECEPTIONS. PLEASE ADVISE US AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WHAT SOCIAL EVENTS UK IS PLANNING.

6. IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO SCHEDULE FULL-DAY BILATERAL MEETINGS ON SUNDAY, JUNE 20 (SEE PARA 8 BELOW). EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO RESERVE CONFERENCE ROOM SUITABLE FOR ABOUT 20 FOR THAT DAY.

7. EXACT COMPOSITION OF US DELEGATION IS NOT YET DECIDED AND WILL BE DETERMINED IN PART BY AGENDA. WE WILL PROVIDE NAMES OF MEMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

8. FOR MOSCOW, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHO PLANS TO ATTEND FOR USSR, AND IN PARTICULAR IF DEPUTY FOMIN KOZYREV PLANS TO ATTEND. FYI. IT HAS BEEN PRACTICE AT TIMES IN PAST TO HOLD US-SOVIET BILATERALS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO GROUP OF FIVE MEETINGS - NORMALLY AT SOVIET REQUEST. SOVIET DEL IN NEW YORK DID SUGGEST POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A MEETING BUT DID NOT PURSUE IT OR FORMALLY REQUEST A MEETING. END FYI. IF USSR DOES WISH TO HAVE BILATERAL TALKS WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO TAKE PART AND WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE CONFERENCE ROOM SPACE AT US EMBASSY LONDON ON SUNDAY, JUNE 20, IF THAT IS SATISFACTORY. EMBASSY MOSCOW SHOULD NOT RAISE POINT WITH SOVIETS, BUT IF SOVIETS ENQUIRE YOU MAY MAKE ABOVE POINTS. PLEASE INFORM US ASAP OF ANY SOVIET INTEREST IN BILATERALS AND SPECIFICALLY WHAT SUBJECTS THEY WISH RAISED. FYI. IF

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SOVIETS CONTINUE TO PUSH DEEP SEABED QUOTA ISSUE AT  
 BILATERAL MEETINGS - WHICH IS LIKELY - NET EFFECT OF  
 MEETING MAY BE HARMFUL OR, AT BEST, TO LITTLE AVAIL.  
 THUS WE DO NOT WISH TO STIMULATE MEETING, BUT OF COURSE  
 WILL AGREE TO IT IF SOVIET DESIRE. END FYI. SISCO